

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4300

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 19, 2019

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and  
Urban Affairs

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## AN ACT

To provide Federal housing assistance on behalf of youths  
who are aging out of foster care, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Fostering Stable Hous-  
3 ing Opportunities Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF FAMILY.**

5 Subparagraph (A) of section 3(b)(3) of the United  
6 States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(A))  
7 is amended—

8 (1) in the first sentence—

9 (A) by striking “(v)” and inserting “(vi)”;

10 and

11 (B) by inserting after “tenant family,” the

12 following: “(v) a youth described in section

13 8(x)(2)(B),”; and

14 (2) in the second sentence, by inserting “or

15 (vi)” after “clause (v)”.

16 **SEC. 3. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS FOR FOSTERING STA-**  
17 **BLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES.**

18 (a) ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER

19 CARE.—Section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of

20 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “subject to  
22 paragraph (5),” after “(B)”;

23 (2) in paragraph (3)—

24 (A) by striking “(3) ALLOCATION.—The”

25 and inserting the following:

26 “(3) ALLOCATION.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The”; and

2 (B) by adding at the end the following new  
3 subparagraph:

4 “(B) ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT  
5 OF FOSTER CARE.—Notwithstanding any other  
6 provision of law, the Secretary shall, subject  
7 only to the availability of funds, allocate such  
8 assistance to any public housing agencies that  
9 (i) administer assistance pursuant to paragraph  
10 (2)(B), or seek to administer such assistance,  
11 consistent with procedures established by the  
12 Secretary, (ii) have requested such assistance so  
13 that they may provide timely assistance to eligi-  
14 ble youth, and (iii) have submitted to the Sec-  
15 retary a statement describing how the agency  
16 will connect assisted youths with local commu-  
17 nity resources and self-sufficiency services, to  
18 the extent they are available, and obtain refer-  
19 rals from public child welfare agencies regard-  
20 ing youths in foster care who become eligible  
21 for such assistance.”;

22 (3) by redesignating paragraph (5) as para-  
23 graph (6); and

24 (4) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-  
25 lowing new paragraph:

1           “(5) REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE FOR  
2           YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE.—Assistance  
3           provided under this subsection for an eligible youth  
4           pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) shall be subject to the  
5           following requirements:

6                   “(A) REQUIREMENTS TO EXTEND ASSIST-  
7           ANCE.—

8                           “(i) PARTICIPATION IN FAMILY SELF-  
9                           SUFFICIENCY.—In the case of a public  
10                           housing agency that is providing such as-  
11                           sistance under this subsection on behalf of  
12                           an eligible youth and that is carrying out  
13                           a family self-sufficiency program under  
14                           section 23, the agency shall, subject only  
15                           to the availability of such assistance, ex-  
16                           tend the provision of such assistance for  
17                           up to 24 months beyond the period re-  
18                           ferred to in paragraph (2)(B), but only  
19                           during such period that the youth is in  
20                           compliance with the terms and conditions  
21                           applicable under section 23 and the regula-  
22                           tions implementing such section to a per-  
23                           son participating in a family self-suffi-  
24                           ciency program.

1           “(ii) EDUCATION, WORKFORCE DE-  
2 VELOPMENT, OR EMPLOYMENT.—In the  
3 case of a public housing agency that is  
4 providing such assistance under this sub-  
5 section on behalf of an eligible youth and  
6 that is not carrying out a family self-suffi-  
7 ciency program under section 23, or is car-  
8 rying out such a program in which the  
9 youth has been unable to enroll, the agency  
10 shall, subject only to the availability of  
11 such assistance, extend the provision of  
12 such assistance for two successive 12-  
13 month periods, after the period referred to  
14 in paragraph (2)(B), but only if for not  
15 less than 9 months of the 12-month period  
16 preceding each such extension the youth  
17 was—

18           “(I) engaged in obtaining a rec-  
19 ognized postsecondary credential or a  
20 secondary school diploma or its recog-  
21 nized equivalent;

22           “(II) enrolled in an institution of  
23 higher education, as such term is de-  
24 fined in section 101(a) of the Higher  
25 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.

1                   1001(a)) and including the institu-  
2                   tions described in subparagraphs (A)  
3                   and (B) of section 102(a)(1) of such  
4                   Act (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)(1)); or

5                   “(III) participating in a career  
6                   pathway, as such term is defined in  
7                   section 3 of the Workforce Innovation  
8                   and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
9                   3102).

10                   Notwithstanding any other provision of  
11                   this clause, a public housing agency shall  
12                   consider employment as satisfying the re-  
13                   quirements under this subparagraph.

14                   “(iii) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding  
15                   clauses (i) and (ii), a public housing agen-  
16                   cy that is providing such assistance under  
17                   this subsection on behalf of an eligible  
18                   youth shall extend the provision of such as-  
19                   sistance for up to 24 months beyond the  
20                   period referred to in paragraph (2)(B),  
21                   and clauses (i) and (ii) of this subpara-  
22                   graph shall not apply, if the eligible youth  
23                   certifies that he or she is—

24                   “(I) a parent or other household  
25                   member responsible for the care of a

1 dependent child under the age of 6 or  
2 for the care of an incapacitated per-  
3 son;

4 “(II) a person who is regularly  
5 and actively participating in a drug  
6 addiction or alcohol treatment and re-  
7 habilitation program; or

8 “(III) a person who is incapable  
9 of complying with the requirement  
10 under clause (i) or (ii), as applicable,  
11 due to a documented medical condi-  
12 tion.

13 “(iv) VERIFICATION OF COMPLI-  
14 ANCE.—The Secretary shall require the  
15 public housing agency to verify compliance  
16 with the requirements under this subpara-  
17 graph by each eligible youth on whose be-  
18 half the agency provides such assistance  
19 under this subsection on an annual basis  
20 in conjunction with reviews of income for  
21 purposes of determining income eligibility  
22 for such assistance.

23 “(B) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—

24 “(i) ELIGIBILITY.—Each eligible  
25 youth on whose behalf such assistance

1 under this subsection is provided shall be  
2 eligible for any supportive services (as such  
3 term is defined in section 103 of the Work-  
4 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
5 U.S.C. 3102)) made available, in connec-  
6 tion with any housing assistance program  
7 of the agency, by or through the public  
8 housing agency providing such assistance.

9 “(ii) INFORMATION.—Upon the initial  
10 provision of such assistance under this  
11 subsection on behalf of any eligible youth,  
12 the public housing agency shall inform  
13 such eligible youth of the existence of any  
14 programs or services referred to in clause  
15 (i) and of their eligibility for such pro-  
16 grams and services.

17 “(C) APPLICABILITY TO MOVING TO WORK  
18 AGENCIES.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
19 sion of law, the requirements of this paragraph  
20 shall apply to assistance under this subsection  
21 pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) made available  
22 by each public housing agency participating in  
23 the Moving to Work Program under section 204  
24 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and  
25 Housing and Urban Development, and Inde-

1           pendent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (42  
2           U.S.C. 1437f note), except that in lieu of com-  
3           pliance with clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph  
4           (A) of this paragraph, such an agency may  
5           comply with the requirements under such  
6           clauses by complying with such terms, condi-  
7           tions, and requirements as may be established  
8           by the agency for persons on whose behalf such  
9           rental assistance under this subsection is pro-  
10          vided.

11           “(D) TERMINATION OF VOUCHERS UPON  
12          TURN-OVER.—A public housing agency shall not  
13          reissue any such assistance made available from  
14          appropriated funds when assistance for the  
15          youth initially assisted is terminated, unless  
16          specifically authorized by the Secretary.

17           “(E) REPORTS.—

18           “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary  
19          shall require each public housing agency  
20          that provides such assistance under this  
21          subsection in any fiscal year to submit a  
22          report to the Secretary for such fiscal year  
23          that—

24                   “(I) specifies the number of per-  
25                   sons on whose behalf such assistance

1 under this subsection was provided  
2 during such fiscal year;

3 “(II) specifies the number of per-  
4 sons who applied during such fiscal  
5 year for such assistance under this  
6 subsection, but were not provided  
7 such assistance, and provides a brief  
8 identification in each instance of the  
9 reason why the public housing agency  
10 was unable to award such assistance;  
11 and

12 “(III) describes how the public  
13 housing agency communicated or col-  
14 laborated with public child welfare  
15 agencies to collect such data.

16 “(ii) INFORMATION COLLECTIONS.—  
17 The Secretary shall, to the greatest extent  
18 possible, utilize existing information collec-  
19 tions, including the voucher management  
20 system (VMS), the Inventory Management  
21 System/PIH Information Center (IMS/  
22 PIC), or the successors of those systems,  
23 to collect information required under this  
24 subparagraph.

1           “(F) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall  
2           consult with the Secretary of Health and  
3           Human Services to provide such information  
4           and guidance to the Secretary of Health and  
5           Human Services as may be necessary to facili-  
6           tate such Secretary in informing States and  
7           public child welfare agencies on how to correctly  
8           and efficiently implement and comply with the  
9           requirements of this subsection relating to as-  
10          sistance provided pursuant to paragraph  
11          (2)(B).”.

12          (b) COORDINATION BETWEEN PHAS AND PUBLIC  
13 CHILD WELFARE AGENCIES.—

14           (1) APPLICABILITY TO FOSTERING STABLE  
15 HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM.—Subparagraph  
16 (A) of section 8(x)(4) of the United States Housing  
17 Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)(4)(A)) is amended  
18 by inserting before the semicolon at the end the fol-  
19 lowing: “and establishing a point of contact at public  
20 housing agencies to ensure that public housing agen-  
21 cies receive appropriate referrals regarding eligible  
22 recipients”.

23          (c) PHA ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.—Subsection (q) of  
24 section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42

1 U.S.C. 1437f(q)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
2 lowing new paragraph:

3           “(5) SUPPLEMENTS FOR ADMINISTERING AS-  
4           SISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER  
5           CARE.—The Secretary may provide supplemental  
6           fees under this subsection to the public housing  
7           agency for the cost of administering any assistance  
8           for foster youth under subsection (x)(2)(B), in an  
9           amount determined by the Secretary, but only if the  
10          agency waives for such eligible youth receiving as-  
11          sistance any residency requirement that it has other-  
12          wise established pursuant to subsection  
13          (r)(1)(B)(i).”.

14 **SEC. 4. EXCEPTIONS TO LIMITATIONS FOR PROJECT-BASED**  
15 **VOUCHER ASSISTANCE.**

16          (a) PERCENTAGE LIMITATION.—The first sentence of  
17          clause (ii) of section 8(o)(13)(B) of the United States  
18          Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(B)(ii)) is  
19          amended by inserting before “or that” the following: “that  
20          house eligible youths receiving assistance pursuant to sub-  
21          section (x)(2)(B),”.

22          (b) INCOME-MIXING REQUIREMENT.—Subclause (I)  
23          of section 8(o)(13)(D)(ii) of the United States Housing  
24          Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(D)(ii)(I)) is amend-  
25          ed by inserting after “elderly families” the following: “,

